training to reduce pressure and overcrowding in popular trades and to provide alternative avenues of employment to urban skilled labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) In addition to the sectoral investments during the Sixth Plan period which have resulted in an expansion of employment opportunities through the process of growth, there has been in operation important employment beneficiary oriented programmes for specific target groups such as the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), the Training Scheme for Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), and the Scheme for providing Self-Employment to Eudcated Youth. The Integrated Rural Development Programme benefited about 16.58 million families against a target of 15 million families during 1980—85. While National Rural Employment Programme has created 1775 million mandays of employment during 1980—85, the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme created about 260 million mandays of employment during 1983—85. The scheme for Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment has trained about one million rural youth of which about 50 per cent have settled down in self-employment. The scheme for providing self-employment to the educated unemployed has benefited 2.42 lakh educated unemployed during 1983-84 and 2.29 lakh during 1984-85.

(b) vocational Training Institutions (Industrial Training Institutes) are already on the increase in the country. Their number has almost doubled in the past 5 years. Currently, there are over 1400 Industrial Training Institutes in the country. New trades are also being introduced as and when needs are projected by the employers/entrepreneurs. Steps have also been taken to introduce a module on entrepreneurial development in the curriculum.

Modernisation of Mining Industry

2309. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Governments consideration to modernise the mining industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) Modernisation of mining methods is a continuing process. Steps taken in regard to mining are generally a part and parcel of the mining project. Modernisation programme for the mines of Public Sector undertakings under this Department have been drawn up during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The mines of the Public Sector Undertakings e.g. Hindustan Copper Limited, Hindustan Zinc Limited, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, Bharat Goldmines Limited etc. have their own Plans of modernisation. Besides as per Science and Technology Plan implementation of the Department of Mines, outlays proposed for the Seventh Five Year Plan are of the order of about Rs. 65 crores. This will cover the schemes for improved operating practices, improved resources recovery, development introduction of new technology for better performance, improving productivity and environmental control, augmentation facility for ore dressing etc.

Steps taken during Sixth Plan and proposed to be continued during the Seventh Plan in regard to coal mines, include introduction of large capacity excavation equipment, mechanisation, modern power support longwall equipment telemonitoring systems etc.

Similarly, in the mines of public sector units engaged in the production of non-ferrous metals, modern equipment and techniques are being introduced, where possible.

Loans to small borrowers

2310. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introudce a new system to disburse loans to small borrowers; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has instructed the publics sector banks that their rural branches should fix two specific days of the month for public disbursement of loans. Reserve Bank of India has also set up a working group under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to examine the existing system of small loans disbursal and to suggest improvements considered necessary.

Export of Marine Products

2311. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any fresh steps to boost the export of marine products during the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Fresh steps taken to boost the export marine products during the Seventh Plan period include (1) promotion Prawn Farming and assistance for setting up prawn hatcheries and prawn seed banks (2) assistance and encouragement for production of value added items and (3) measures for exploitation of deep-sea fishery resources.

Expansion work of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka", Bhubaneswar

2312. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far sanctioned by the Central Government for the expansion work of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka" in Bhubaneswar, Orissa;

(b) the amount borne by the State Government of Orissa; and

(c) the progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) Expansion of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka" is ITDC's own project. The estimated cost to be borne on this project is Rs. 170 lakhs. ITDC has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 66.44 lakhs upto 31-3-1985.

The building structure has been completed; furnishing work is nearing completion; work relating to installation of lifts, airconditioning system and other services including interior work is in progress.

Setting up of Jewellery Export Centre at Ahmedabad

2313. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the former Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, made an announcement for the setting up of a Jewellery Export Centre at Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, what is the present position in this regard?